

## CHARLESTOWN HERITAGE COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, 24 November, 2009 7:00 pm  
Bakery Building, Main Street, Charlestown, NH

Present: Wesley Van Velsor, Barbara Jones, Joyce Higgins, Aare Ilves, Carol Clark

Absent: Terry Spilsbury, Eric Lutz

Alternate Commission member Aare Ilves sat in for Eric Lutz

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 pm by Wesley Van Velsor.

1. Minutes for the 27 October 2009 meeting were approved as written.
2. Aare Ilves gave a report regarding the current financial holdings of the Heritage Commission, and explanation of actions to retain fund balances at the end of the year by transferring to the Heritage Fund savings account.

Aare provided an update on the Tree Committee's latest meeting where priorities for 2010 were identified. The top priority is the area in front of Dan's Maxsaver. Since there is currently engineering work being done on Main Street, it was decided that new work by the Tree Committee in that area could wait until after the digging for the sewer reconstruction was completed. The second priority is the north end of Main Street. The next priority is the Welcome sign at the intersection of route 11 and route 12. The Tree Committee would not take the lead on this project, but rather assist others' efforts. Another priority included support for the Cemetery trustees toward improvements in front of the fence at Forest Hill and the area around the flagpole at Pinecrest Cemetery. The Tree Committee also wishes to support CEDA with shrubs and/or trees near their Gristmill sign, when they have that project completed. The Tree Committee's report was accepted.

3. Wesley Van Velsor requested input from the Heritage Commission members regarding how extensive the information should be that is included in the new scrapbook. It was suggested that relevant articles to the Heritage Commission and any photos should be included. Since several items pertaining to the Tree Committee were found, it was decided that Wes should separate the Tree Committee articles and items and give them to Judy Murray for inclusion in her collection for the Tree Committee.
4. Information was provided regarding on-line efforts to auction artifacts from the Fort of No. 4. Newspaper items were provided and discussion was held regarding the background of these artifacts and their current status.
5. We were pleased to learn that the town moved the cannon to the Fire Station, providing a more secure location.
6. The Town History genealogy form on Charlestown's web site has been moved to allow easier access. This form can now be accessed by a box on the main page of the town's web site. The form is also being sent to OUR TOWN, and it was asked that this form be included in the publications until June, space permitting. Joyce will arrange to have 200 copies made by All

Service on Main Street at the town rate, to be billed to the Heritage Commission. It was also suggested that Aare use Heritage Commission funds to purchase 100 stamps for the mailing of these forms.

7. It was suggested that it would be beneficial to have a listing of topics and the genealogy section of the Town History book in draft for Old Home Day, summer of 2010, to encourage pre-publication sales. Discussion was held regarding tasks that needed to be accomplished in this effort, to include reviewing indexing programs on-line, gathering material to help determine the order to proceed, and the compilation of the genealogy forms.

The motion was made that the Heritage Commission hire Lois Corcoran as a contractor to research, organize, and write for the next Town History book, and that we would authorize up to \$3,000.00 in funds for the period 01 December, 2009 through 30 June, 2010. This motion was unanimously passed. Joyce and Wes will contact Dave Edkins regarding the writing of this contract.

8. The Heritage Commission reaffirmed that the request amount remain at \$1,500.00 for its regular line item for the 2010 budget. It was moved that, following the approval of Lois Corcoran's contract, we give her a \$500.00 retainer from the Heritage Commission's regular line item, and take \$2,500.00 from the \$5,000.00 capitol reserve account. A motion was also made that the Heritage Commission request \$2,000.00 for a warrant article for composing the Town History book. This motion was passed.

9. It was decided that we did not need any more Heritage Commission brochures at this time.

10. Discussion was held regarding the town's web site, and Joyce suggested that we expand the web site to include photos of town monuments, etc. It was proposed that we think about what we would want photos taken of and to move further discussion to the next meeting.

11. We decided it was not too early to start discussions relative to the Old Home Days activities, and Wes will look into the costs for including the cannon in the parade.

Barbara brought written articles regarding two historical items of note and we requested that she write up these items and include them in future publications of OUR TOWN. No other new business was discussed.

The next Heritage Commission meeting is scheduled for December 22, 2009 at 7:00 pm at the Bakery building. The meeting was adjourned at 9:10 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Carol Clark  
Approved minutes

